



**School Committee
Meeting Book**

**May 12, 2021
7:00 pm**

**Town Hall -100 Maple Avenue
Selectmen's Meeting Room**



SHREWSBURY PUBLIC SCHOOLS SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING

AGENDA

May 12, 2021 7:00pm
Town Hall—Selectmen's Meeting Room
100 Maple Avenue

THIS MEETING IS NOT OPEN TO PHYSICAL PARTICIPATION BY THE PUBLIC. TOWN HALL IS CLOSED TO THE PUBLIC FOR MEETINGS. THIS MEETING WILL BE BROADCAST LIVE ON LOCAL CABLE CHANNELS 29 & 329 AND STREAMED LIVE ON THE SHREWSBURY MEDIA CONNECTION WEBSITE AT <https://videoplayer.telvue.com/player/iE0p5N2b-Se5BhxS-3KDrHfUWzLHfku2/stream/722>. SEE BELOW FOR INFORMATION ON CONTACTING THE CHAIR OF THE SCHOOL COMMITTEE RE: PUBLIC PARTICIPATION.

On March 12, 2020, Governor Baker issued an Executive Order modifying certain requirements of the Open Meeting Law, to enable public bodies to carry out their responsibilities while adhering to public health recommendations regarding social distancing.

The Executive Order relieves public bodies from the requirement in the Open Meeting Law that meetings be conducted in a public place that is open and physically accessible to the public, provided that the public body makes provision to ensure public access to the deliberations of the public body through adequate, alternative means. "Adequate, alternative means" may include, without limitation, providing public access through telephone, internet, or satellite enabled audio or video conferencing or any other technology that enables the public to clearly follow the proceedings of the public body in real time. A municipal public body that for reasons of economic hardship and despite best efforts is unable to provide alternative means of public access in real time may instead post on its municipal website a full and complete transcript, recording, or other comprehensive record of the proceedings as soon as practicable afterwards.

In addition, all members of a public body may participate in a meeting remotely; the Open Meeting Law's requirement that a quorum of the body and the chair be physically present at the meeting location is suspended.

All other provisions of the Open Meeting Law, such as the requirements regarding posting notice of meetings and creating and maintaining accurate meeting minutes, as well as the limited, enumerated purposes for holding an executive session, remain in effect.

While for this meeting the School Committee and members of the School Department administrative team will physically meet at the location listed above, members of the public may not attend in person. If a member of the public wishes to participate remotely in the Public Participation portion of the meeting, they should contact the Committee Chair, Ms. Sandra Fryc, by sending an email to schoolcommittee@shrewsbury.k12.ma.us.

Items

Suggested time allotments

- | | | |
|------|--|--|
| I. | Election of Officers | <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 10px; text-align: center;">7:00-7:10</div> |
| II. | Public Participation | |
| III. | Chairperson's Report & Members' Reports | |
| IV. | Superintendent's Report | |
| V. | Time Scheduled Appointments: | |
| | A. Update on School District's Response to the Pandemic & Plans for Reopening for Full, In-Person Learning: Report | 7:10 – 7:35 |
| | B. Elementary School Redistricting & Kindergarten Update | 7:35 – 7:55 |
| VI. | Curriculum | |
| | A. Summer Programming Update: Report | 7:55 – 8:25 |



SHREWSBURY PUBLIC SCHOOLS SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING

- VII. Policy
- VIII. Finance & Operations
- IX. Old Business
- X. New Business
- XI. Approval of Minutes 8:25 – 8:30
- XII. Executive Session 8:30 – 9:00
 - A. For the purpose of addressing G.L. c. 30A, § 21(a)(7) “[t]o comply with, or act under the authority of, any general or special law or federal grant-in-aid requirements” (“Purpose 7”), Open Meeting Law, G.L. c. 30A, §§ 22(f), (g) – for the purpose of reviewing, approving, and/or releasing executive session minutes.
 - B. For the purpose of addressing G.L. c. 30A, § 21(a)(3) “to discuss strategy with respect to collective bargaining or litigation if an open meeting may have a detrimental effect of the bargaining or litigating position of the public body and the chair so declares” (“Purpose 3”) - the Shrewsbury Education Association Units A and/or B, the Shrewsbury Paraprofessional Association, and/or the Cafeteria Workers Association.
 - C. For the purpose of addressing G.L. c. 30A, § 21(a)(2) “to conduct strategy sessions in preparation for negotiations with nonunion personnel or to conduct collective bargaining sessions or contract negotiations with nonunion personnel” (“Purpose 2”) - non-represented administrators.
- XIII. Adjournment 9:00

Next regular meeting: May 26, 2021



SHREWSBURY PUBLIC SCHOOLS SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING

ITEM NO: I. Election of Officers

MEETING DATE: 05/12/21

The Superintendent of Schools will call the May 12, 2021 meeting to order according to the guidelines of School Committee policy 112 (see below) for the first meeting following the annual town election.

112. Meeting For Organization	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. The School Committee shall organize and elect a chairperson and officers annually, at the first meeting following town election. This meeting shall be held on the next regularly scheduled meeting following the annual election of town officers, unless otherwise voted by the School Committee. The officers to be elected at this meeting are: Chairperson, Vice-Chairperson, and Secretary.2. The members shall be called together at the organization meeting by the Superintendent of Schools. The Superintendent shall accept nominations for Chairperson of the Committee and turn the meeting over to the Chairperson after that election has been held.
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SHREWSBURY PUBLIC SCHOOLS SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING

ITEM NO: II. Public Participation

MEETING DATE: **05/12/21**

SPECIFIC STATEMENT OR QUESTION:

Will the School Committee hear thoughts and ideas from the public regarding the operations and the programs of the school system?

BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

Copies of the policy and procedure for Public Participation are available to the public at each School Committee meeting.

ITEM NO: III. Chairperson's Report/Members' Reports

SPECIFIC STATEMENT OR QUESTION:

Will the School Committee hear a report from the Chairperson of the School Committee and other members of the School Committee who may wish to comment on school affairs?

BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

This agenda item provides an opportunity for the Chairperson and members of the Shrewsbury School Committee to comment on school affairs that are of interest to the community.

STAFF AVAILABLE FOR PRESENTATION:

School Committee Members

ITEM NO: IV. Superintendent's Report

SPECIFIC STATEMENT OR QUESTION:

Will the School Committee hear a report from Dr. Joseph M. Sawyer, Superintendent of Schools?

BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

This agenda item allows the Superintendent of the Shrewsbury Public Schools to comment informally on the programs and activities of the school system.

STAFF AVAILABLE FOR PRESENTATION:

Dr. Joseph M. Sawyer, Superintendent of Schools

ACTION RECOMMENDED FOR ITEMS I, II, & III:

That the School Committee accept the report and take such action as it deems in the best interest of the school system.



**SHREWSBURY PUBLIC SCHOOLS
SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING**

ITEM NO: **V. Time Scheduled Appointments:** MEETING DATE: **05/12/21**
**A. Update on School District's Response to the Pandemic & Plans for
Reopening for Full, In-Person Learning: Report**

BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

Dr. Sawyer and members of the leadership team will provide an update on the school district's response to the COVID-19 pandemic and the district's plans for reopening for full, in-person learning.

ACTION RECOMMENDED:

That the School Committee hear the report and take such action as it deems in the best interest of the school system.

STAFF AVAILABLE FOR PRESENTATION:

Dr. Joseph M. Sawyer, Superintendent of Schools
District Administrators



**SHREWSBURY PUBLIC SCHOOLS
SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING**

ITEM NO: V. Time Scheduled Appointments: **MEETING DATE: 05/12/21**
B. Elementary School Redistricting & Kindergarten Update

BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

Mr. Collins will present an update on elementary school redistricting and kindergarten for the 2021-2022 School Year that includes a brief redistricting process review, a description of the implementation schedule, information about resources for parents, and details on the kindergarten program.

ACTION RECOMMENDED:

That the School Committee hear the report and take such action as it deems in the best interest of the school system.

STAFF AVAILABLE FOR PRESENTATION:

Mr. Patrick Collins, Assistant Superintendent for Finance and Operations
Dr. Joseph M. Sawyer, Superintendent of Schools

Elementary School Redistricting Update

Patrick C. Collins

Asst. Superintendent for Finance and Operations

12 May 2021

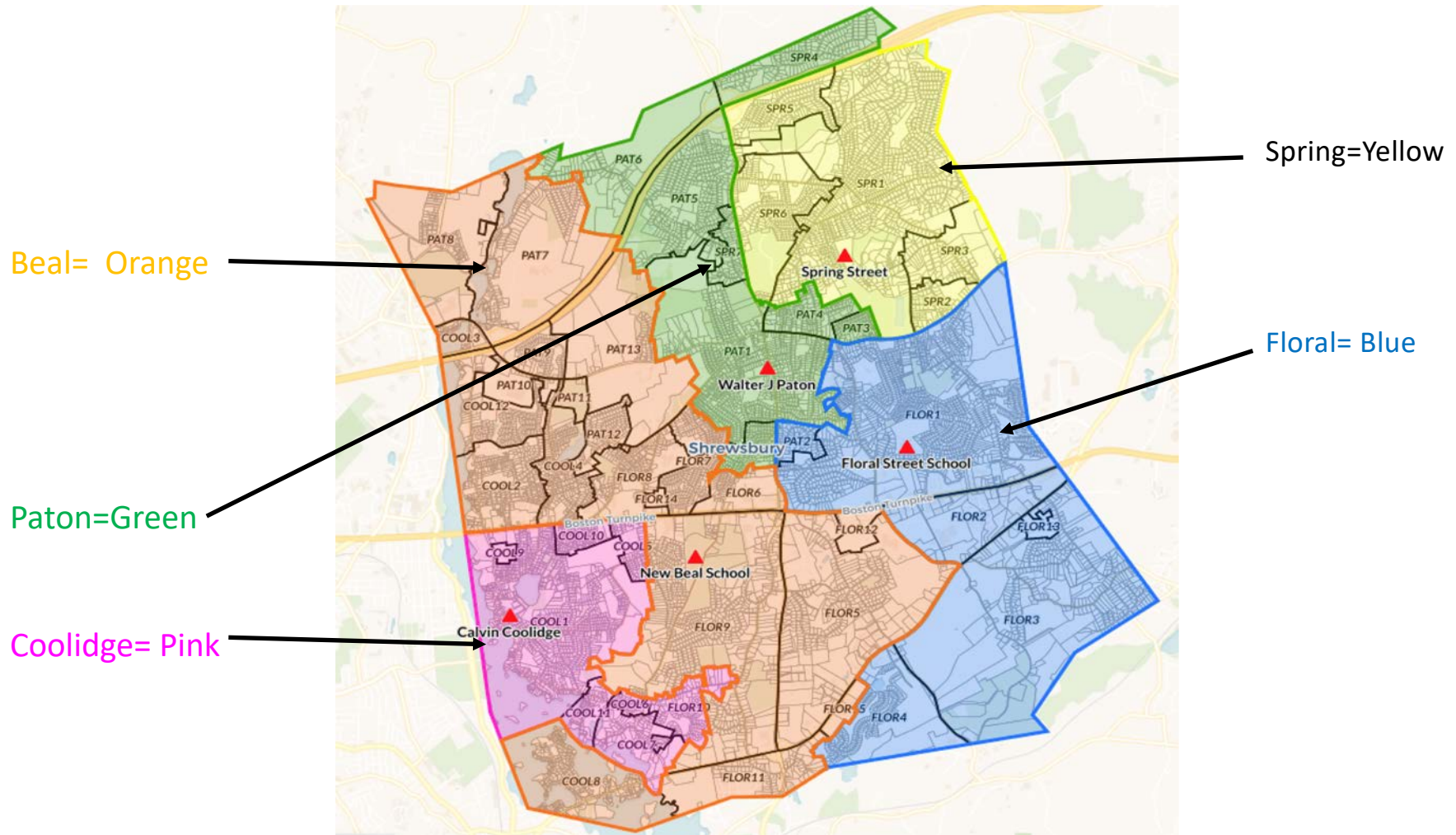
Topics

- Brief Process Review
- Implementation Schedule
- Parent Resources
- Kindergarten Program

Brief Process Review

- 13 month decision making process: January 2020 to February 2021
- School Committee commissioned a Redistricting Committee with parent representatives from each elementary school to make recommendations after careful research and community input
- Guiding Principles were established at the outset to detail the most important criteria
- A Geographic Information Systems [GIS] consultant was hired to aid with data management and mapping visuals
- Two virtual community forums were held in the winter with feedback from parents considered
- School Committee vote was taken on February 24, 2021

NEW ELEMENTARY SCHOOL ZONES: EFFECTIVE 2021-2022 SCHOOL YEAR



Implementation Schedule

- School Committee had already voted to reconfigure all elementary schools to have kindergarten through grade 4 levels upon opening the new Major Howard W. Beal School at 214 Lake Street
- Parents of next year K-4 students will get a letter via U.S. Mail in mid May indicating their child's elementary school assignment (this letter will also be sent via email)

Implementation Schedule

- Parents will also get school-based communications over the summertime for welcoming events [i.e., Open Houses] and new teacher assignments
- Bus registration will open in mid-late May after the new elementary school assignment letters are sent

Parent Resources

- We'll send reminder communications from both the district Community Bulletin and weekly principal communications that confirms the implementation of elementary redistricting and the opening of the new Beal School on time this August 2021
- Our district website hosts an interactive map where parents can zoom in on their street address and see their elementary school assignment
- The above are all supplemental activities to all the communications previously sent to parents via various media formats

Kindergarten Program

- Starting with the 2021-2022 school year this coming August.....
 - Sufficient space for full-day kindergarten for ALL students
 - No lottery is needed
 - No tuition charge for kindergarten
- Kindergarten will be part of the K-4 elementary grade span at all elementary schools
- Kindergarten registration will open on/about May 17th and is an “online” process

Questions?



SHREWSBURY PUBLIC SCHOOLS SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING

ITEM NO: **VI. Curriculum**

MEETING DATE: **05/12/21**

A. Summer Programming Update: Report

BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

Ms. Clouter & Ms. Belsito will present information on current plans for summer programming for students who need various types of extra support. A memo from Ms. Clouter is enclosed, and additional information regarding special education summer programming will be provided at the meeting.

ACTION RECOMMENDED:

That the School Committee hear the report and take such action as it deems in the best interest of the school system.

STAFF AVAILABLE FOR PRESENTATION:

Ms. Amy Clouter, Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum, Instruction, and Assessment
Ms. Meg Belsito, Assistant Superintendent for Student Services



Summer Programming: *Leveraging Small Group Instruction to Address Student Needs*

May 12, 2021

By Amy Clouter

Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum, Instruction & Assessment

Summary

Since the sudden closure of schools last March, educators, parents and policy makers have adjusted schedules, structures and student groupings in order to minimize disruption to learning and address the impact of the pandemic on our school communities. Throughout the year, the use of common assessments has enabled us to identify and respond to individual needs. However, the changing nature of instructional programming this year and the lingering impact of the pandemic persisted as a challenge for some students and families. We recognize that our students will need our support well beyond the academic year, and summer provides us an opportunity to help students prepare for next fall. This report details our initial planning for general education summer support.

I. Introduction

Both the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education and the Governor have communicated the importance of offering academic support and/or recovery options for students, starting as soon as this summer. Although DESE has yet to release specific guidelines for 2021, the department issued general guidelines last year that can drive our planning, namely:

High-quality summer learning programs should be accessible to all students, with particular emphasis on students who were academically behind prior to closures, students who missed core instruction during closures, and students who are at risk socially or emotionally.

Additionally, the description must confirm the high-quality summer learning program is inclusive of:

- *Clearly defined delivery models, which describe how instruction will be delivered (in-person, virtual synchronous, virtual asynchronous, hybrid, or analogue).*
- *Clearly defined process for identifying the standards to be covered, including [prerequisite content standards](#) identified for success in the next grade level for ELA/literacy, and content essential for credit recovery for high school students.*
- *Clearly defined process for identifying and conducting outreach to students most in need of these supports, including [students with disabilities](#) and [English learners](#) to support (re)engagement.*
- *Clearly defined plans to support [students with disabilities](#) and [English learners](#).*
- *Clearly defined plans to incorporate social and emotional learning and engagement for sustained attendance.*
- *Clearly defined schedules describing how students will engage in the summer learning programs (i.e., schedules types by grade level, student subgroups, and duration of program).*

Shrewsbury is expected to receive \$1.246 million in federal ESSR 3 funds, and with 20% earmarked for “academic / SEL recovery”, we have \$250,000 to target for general education student support. However, these funds can be expended until 2023. Given the value of supporting students when school is in session, we also plan on using ESSR allocations to support intervention efforts in the 2021-2022 school year.

II. Tiered Support

As you know, the multi-tiered system of support (MTSS) is the framework that drives intervention planning in Shrewsbury. Educators and district leaders have used the idea of tiered supports to align summer supports for students as well. For example, all students are encouraged to participate in summer reading programs. Further, every child in Grades K-8 will be assured of continued access to software platforms like Freckle and ALEKs that target specific skills in Reading and Math. The summer programming outlined below is designed for students that educators feel will benefit from in-person instruction.

Tier	Program	Notes
1 For ALL students	Summer Reading Experience K-12 SPL Summer Reading Parks & Rec / SPL collaboration	The Town is running one week sessions on site at FSS in the morning, and at Sunset Beach in the afternoons June 22- Aug 9th
2 For Select Students	Summer of 2021 Academy English Learners Program	2 weeks for most, 3 weeks for Eng. Learners ELE: Mon- Thurs 7/19-22 ALL: Mon-Thurs, July 26-August 5th
3 For Qualifying Students	Extended School Year program for qualifying Special Education students	Monday-Thursday, July 6-August 12, 2021

III. The Framework for General Education Programming

Across all three levels, individual children will be targeted for invitation by need, with some spots reserved for 'typical' learners. Although at every level plans are still being developed, some key decisions have been made.

Grades K-8

As illustrated above, in addition to Tier 1 supports, for the first time this summer some students will be invited to participate in an in-person academic support program staffed by general educators.

Students in Grades K-8 will attend the program in-person at either Sherwood (if numbers allow) or Oak Middle School, likely Oak. Both schools have 40 classrooms, yet COVID safety protocols will remain in place, which means we need to carefully consider the list of students recommended for the program and plan accordingly. The program will run for two weeks on a Monday-Thursday schedule and overlap with the English Language Education (ELE) Program, enabling English learners to access up to three weeks of support. In addition, daily schedule will run concurrent with the Special Education Extended School Year schedule:

- Morning session: 8:30-11:30
- Afternoon session: 12-2:45



Literacy instruction will take place in the morning, and Math support will be offered in the afternoons. Students who are selected may attend one session or both, depending on their needs.

Instruction will be provided by teachers, tutors and paraprofessionals, using district-designated intervention materials in small group settings. Teachers will lead whole group thematic activities to build and foster connections and SEL skills. Finally, we hope to engage volunteers from Shrewsbury High School to assist our younger learners. All staff and volunteers will be trained on safety protocols per DESE guidance as seen on this [link](#).

Logistics for the program will be coordinated much like Summer Enrichment was structured, with on-site support to handle phones and transitions. Lunch will not be served. Rather, students will bring snacks and/or lunches. Parents will be expected to drop off and pick up their children from the program, although transportation will be considered for those with demonstrated needs.

Grades 9-12

Shrewsbury High School has always supported students at risk of failing by offering credit recovery using Edushares, an online program. In addition to online support, the computer lab at SHS will be open so that students can receive adult guidance. Further the book discussion group for English learners that ran successfully for the first time last year will be offered again. This summer educators at SHS would like to offer additional supports, including a two week program for students experiencing anxiety and/or children that require support with executive functioning.

Although it's exciting to contemplate additional offerings for students, bringing these plans to fruition will require additional attention to logistics. Our foremost concern is how best to support student needs while attending to staffing concerns.

VII. Conclusion

Our students make incredible gains when they are able to interact in person, and especially when they have extra time with their teachers. In structuring a summer program we hope to extend support for students with academic and social needs. In this way we will gain more insight into effective intervention practices as we lay the groundwork for a productive year ahead.



**SHREWSBURY PUBLIC SCHOOLS
SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING**

ITEM NO: **VII. Policy**

MEETING DATE: **05/12/21**

BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

ACTION RECOMMENDED:

COMMITTEE MEMBERS/STAFF AVAILABLE FOR PRESENTATION:



**SHREWSBURY PUBLIC SCHOOLS
SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING**

ITEM NO: **VIII. Finance & Operations**

MEETING DATE: **05/12/21**

BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

ACTION RECOMMENDED:

STAFF AVAILABLE FOR PRESENTATION:



**SHREWSBURY PUBLIC SCHOOLS
SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING**

ITEM NO: VIII. Finance & Operations

MEETING DATE: 05/12/21

BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

ACTION RECOMMENDED:

STAFF AVAILABLE FOR PRESENTATION:



**SHREWSBURY PUBLIC SCHOOLS
SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING**

ITEM NO: **IX. Old Business**

MEETING DATE: **05/12/21**

BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

ACTION RECOMMENDED:

MEMBERS/STAFF AVAILABLE FOR PRESENTATION:



**SHREWSBURY PUBLIC SCHOOLS
SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING**

ITEM NO: **X. New Business**

MEETING DATE: **05/12/21**

BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

ACTION RECOMMENDED:

STAFF AVAILABLE FOR PRESENTATION:



**SHREWSBURY PUBLIC SCHOOLS
SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING**

ITEM NO: **XI. Approval of Minutes**

MEETING DATE: **05/12/21**

BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

The minutes from the School Committee Meeting held on April 28, 2021 will be provided under separate cover.

ACTION RECOMMENDED:

That the Committee accept the minutes from the School Committee Meeting held on April 28, 2021.

STAFF AVAILABLE FOR PRESENTATION:

TBD, Chairperson

Dr. Magee, Secretary when the April 28, 2021 meeting occurred



**SHREWSBURY PUBLIC SCHOOLS
SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING**

ITEM NO: **XII. Executive Session**

MEETING DATE: **05/12/21**

A. For the purpose of addressing G.L. c. 30A, § 21(a)(7) “[t]o comply with, or act under the authority of, any general or special law or federal grant-in-aid requirements” (“Purpose 7”), Open Meeting Law, G.L. c. 30A, §§ 22(f), (g) – for the purpose of reviewing, approving, and/or releasing executive session minutes.

B. For the purpose of addressing G.L. c. 30A, § 21(a)(3) “to discuss strategy with respect to collective bargaining or litigation if an open meeting may have a detrimental effect of the bargaining or litigating position of the public body and the chair so declares” (“Purpose 3”) - the Shrewsbury Education Association Units A and/or B, the Shrewsbury Paraprofessional Association, and/or the Cafeteria Workers Association.

C. For the purpose of addressing G.L. c. 30A, § 21(a)(2) “to conduct strategy sessions in preparation for negotiations with nonunion personnel or to conduct collective bargaining sessions or contract negotiations with nonunion personnel” (“Purpose 2”) - non-represented administrators.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

Executive Session is warranted for these purposes.

ACTION RECOMMENDED:

That the School Committee enter into Executive Session:

A. For the purpose of addressing G.L. c. 30A, § 21(a)(7) “[t]o comply with, or act under the authority of, any general or special law or federal grant-in-aid requirements” (“Purpose 7”), Open Meeting Law, G.L. c. 30A, §§ 22(f), (g) – for the purpose of reviewing, approving, and/or releasing executive session minutes;

B. For the purpose of addressing G.L. c. 30A, § 21(a)(3) “to discuss strategy with respect to collective bargaining or litigation if an open meeting may have a detrimental effect of the bargaining or litigating position of the public body and the chair so declares” (“Purpose 3”) - the Shrewsbury Education Association Units A and/or B, the Shrewsbury Paraprofessional Association, and/or the Cafeteria Workers Association; and

C. For the purpose of addressing G.L. c. 30A, § 21(a)(2) “to conduct strategy sessions in preparation for negotiations with nonunion personnel or to conduct collective bargaining sessions or contract negotiations with nonunion personnel” (“Purpose 2”) - non-represented administrators, where deliberation in an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the bargaining position of the public body; and return to Open Session only for the purpose of adjourning for the evening.

STAFF AVAILABLE FOR PRESENTATION:

Dr. Joseph M. Sawyer, Superintendent of Schools

Ms. Barbara A. Malone, Executive Director of Human Resources

Mr. Patrick C. Collins, Assistant Superintendent for Finance and Operations



**SHREWSBURY PUBLIC SCHOOLS
SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING**

ITEM NO: **XIII. Adjournment**